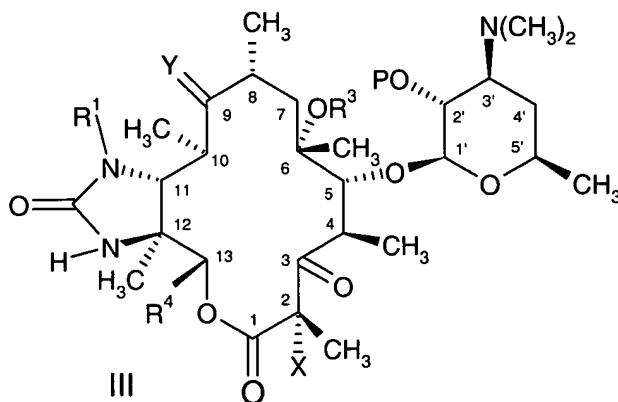


Please amend the claims as follows:

Replace Claims 2 and 8 with the following corresponding amended claims.

B¹
 2 (twice amended). The compound of claim 1 wherein Y is =O or =NOR⁵, R¹ is (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C₁-C₆ alkyl, wherein the heterocyclic is substituted by 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic, R² is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl or C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl, R³ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, R⁴ is ethyl, R⁵ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, and R⁶ is H.

8 (twice amended). The method of claim 7 further wherein the compound of formula II is prepared by treating a compound of the formula



B²
 with a strong base and a compound of formula R²-L, where L is a leaving group, and wherein R² is selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C₁-C₆ alkyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C₂-C₆ alkenyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C₂-C₆ alkynyl, (C₆-C₁₀ aryl) C₁-C₆ alkyl,

(C₆-C₁₀ aryl) C₂-C₆ alkenyl, and (C₆-C₁₀ aryl) C₂-C₆ alkynyl wherein said alkyl moieties of the foregoing groups are optionally substituted by halo or C₁-C₆ alkyl, and wherein said heterocyclic moieties are optionally substituted by 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C₁-C₆ alkyl, or (C₆-C₁₀ aryl) C₁-C₆ alkyl, and further wherein the aryl and heterocyclic moieties of each of the foregoing groups and optional substituents is optionally substituted by 1 to 4 R⁷ groups.

Remarks

Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has found that Claims 1-7 and 9-10 are allowable. However, the Examiner has rejected Claim 8 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claim 8 is amended, consistent with the Examiner's suggestions regarding the term "method of claim 0" and the scope of the definition of R², to place Claim 8 in a condition for allowance. Likewise, Claim 2, is also amended consistent with the Examiner's comments on Claim 8 regarding the term "method of claim 0". No new matter has been added by this amendment.

The Examiner's rejection of the pending Claims shall now be addressed in the order made by the Examiner.

Rejection of Claim 8 Under 35 USC 112, Second Paragraph

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants claim as the invention.